

Prelude – Julien Thiele, Organist

Welcome

Confession & Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God. (*Silence for reflection.*) Holy God,

C: You search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin – our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

P: How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn #654, vs. 1 & 4

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day – *Celebrate*

The Lessons - *Celebrate*

Sermon

Hymn #649, vs. 1 & 3

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers – Celebrate
The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #364, vs. 1 & 4

Son of God, Eternal Savior

Benediction

P: God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter keep you in peace.

C: Amen.

Announcements

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER LIST: Linda McAninch, Diane Becken, Mike Tymoczko (Pastor's brother-in-law), Sally, Jim, Sandy, Joanne, Shirley (Peggy Giberson's sister), Stephanie Blackwell, Debbie (friend of Carol Belling), Frederick, Brent (Pat Daboll's nephew), Diane (friend of Carol Wunderlich), Katie (Chris & Mike Barber's daughter). Military: Kyle, Eric, Ryan, Kevin.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN:

WED: 10:00am Bible Study
SAT: 10-12:00 Pick Up Chili

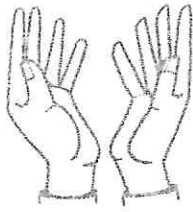
NEXT SUNDAY – Virtual Communion.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be Sunday, February 14, at 9:45am via Zoom. Jim Wanamaker will send the link to every member.

HEY, ST. MARTIN FAMILY! Are you "chili?" Need some hot soup? The annual chili sale will benefit the NT Food Pantry this year! Take-out chili will be sold next Saturday and Sunday, from 10 am - 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. The cost will be \$10 per quart.

We are partnering this event with the "Souper Bowl of Caring," so additional donations of food or money are welcome! Root for your favorite team by placing your donations in their pot!

Please pre-order to help us with planning. Email wanamakj@gmail.com or call 731-3374 by tomorrow to let us know how many quarts you would like, and whether you prefer mild, medium, or hot. If you are unable to leave home, we can arrange delivery. Call Jim or Jennifer Wanamaker (731-3374) with questions. Let's warm our tummies with chili and our hearts by helping others!



Celebrate

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 31, 2021

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

Prayer of the Day

Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

[Moses said:] The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like

you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."



The fear of the LORD is the be - gin - ning of wis - dom.

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with ¹ my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the ¹ congregation.

²**Great are your ¹ works, O LORD,
pondered by all who de- ¹ light in them.**

³Majesty and splendor ¹ mark your deeds,
and your righteousness en- ¹ dures forever.

⁴**You cause your wonders to ¹ be remembered;
you are gracious and full ¹ of compassion. R**

⁵You give food to ¹ those who fear you,
remembering forev- ¹ er your covenant.

⁶**You have shown your people the power ¹ of your works
in giving them the lands ¹ of the nations.**

⁷The works of your hands are faithful- ¹ ness and justice;
all of your pre- ¹ cepts are sure.

⁸**They stand fast forev- ¹ er and ever,
because they are done in ¹ truth and equity. R**

⁹You sent redemption to your people
and commanded your cove- ¹ nant forever;
holy and awesome ¹ is your name.

¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the begin- ¹ ning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding.
God's praise en- ¹ dures forever. R**

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until

now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.

[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.”

²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For all who share the gospel and proclaim freedom in Christ throughout the world: prophets, teachers, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders; for the church and its ministries, let us pray.
Have mercy, O God.

For all God's works in creation: plants and animals, water and soil, forests and farms; and for those tasked with protecting our natural resources and all that exists, let us pray.
Have mercy, O God.

For government and leaders: cities and nations, rescue professionals and legal aid attorneys, elected officials and grassroots organizers; for all responsible for the well-being of civil society, let us pray.
Have mercy, O God.

For those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit: those who are sick and hospitalized, those living with HIV/AIDS, those struggling with mental illness, those who are hungry or homeless, and all in any need (*especially*); for caregivers, hospice workers, and home health aides, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the concerns of this congregation: those who travel, those absent from worship, those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries; for the people of God in this place and for other needs in our community (*especially*), let us pray.
Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For the covenant God made with us in the waters of baptism, in thanksgiving for the baptized who have died in the Lord, let us pray.
Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Preparing for Next Week

Monday Psalm 35:1-10. **Tuesday** (Presentation of Our Lord) Luke 2:22-40. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, 865) Jeremiah 29:1-14. **Thursday** Psalm 147:1-11, 20c. **Friday** (commemoration of the Martyrs of Japan, 1597) 1 Corinthians 9:1-16. **Saturday** Isaiah 46:1-13. **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany** Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39.

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Tracks 1 and 2

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God.
 3 I'm look-ing for . . . the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Right-teous-ness, shine on my path,
 When we have run . . . with pa-tience the race,

The star of my life . . . is Je - sus.
 and show me the way . . . to Je - sus.
 we shall know the joy . . . of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all.

The night and the day are both a - like.

The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Lead our prais - es, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,

al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
 al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
 al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
 at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;

in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
 but by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles now are we.
 for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
 there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Son of God, Eternal Savior

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us Hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; Free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us Hal - lows all our hu - man race:

You our head, who, throned in glo - ry, For your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold, and yours the sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, By your si - lent hours of pain,
 By your pray - ing, by your will - ing That your peo - ple should be one,

Fill us with your love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
 We but stew - ards of your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.
 Quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 Grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth your will be done.